



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
16 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04330

MICHAEL F. KELLY
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting
Maine EMS Conference Room
March 1, 2000
MINUTES

Members Present: Jim McKenney (Chair), Leo Bouchard (Chair-elect), Oden Cassidy, Debbie Dane, Richard Doughty, William Dunwoody, Paul Knowlton, Charles Little, Penelope Stevens, Rebecca Chagrasulis (ex-officio), Robert Ashby, Wayne Werts

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Dan Bahr, Donnie Carroll, Terry Lonchena

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dwight Coming, Bill Montejo, Drexell White, Laura Yustak Smith, Esq. (AAG)

Guests: Ron Victory and Ben Townsend, Esq. (Penobscot Valley Hospital), Kevin McGinnis

1. Introductions were made by those present. Robert Ashby was welcomed to the Board. Mr. Ashby was appointed as a public representative filling the position previously held by John Defilip.

2. Minutes - January 5, 2000

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 5, 2000, as presented. (Bouchard; second by Stevens). Carried.

3. Old Business

A. *Investigations Task Force*

Wayne Werts reported that the Task Force met prior to the Board meeting and reviewed the results of the surveys which were sent to individuals and services who have been part of an investigation within the past 3 years. Of the 98 surveys sent out, only 29 were returned and only 2 of these were license applicants. As a result of this low response, the Task Force is unable to draw any conclusions to the questions in the survey.

There was also a question with regard to the appropriateness of posting Investigation Committee minutes on the MEMS web site. This was previously reviewed by AAG Paul Gauvreau and deemed to be appropriate with other records and minutes which are made available to the public.

B. *Budget Update*

Jay reported that there was a hearing on the supplemental budget request on February 2, 2000. Since that time there have been two work sessions on the request which continues to receive unanimous support from both the Criminal Justice and Appropriations Committees.

C. Legislative Update

Jay distributed the latest copies of the Legislative Summary. All of the bills listed are still being held in their respective committees, but are expected to be reported out in the next several weeks.

D. Unfinished Business

None at this time

E. Other

None at this time

4. New Business

A. Operations Team/Committee Action Items

Jay reported on the highlights of the Ops Team meeting that was held the previous day.

B. Investigations Committee Action Items

Drexell reported that there will be a Fair Hearing with Peter Coffey conducted at the April Board meeting and that the Investigations Committee will be meeting following today's Board meeting. Paul Knowlton was appointed by Chairman McKenney to the Investigations Committee, filling the seat previously held by Geno Murray.

C. State EMS Medical Director

Dr. Chagrasulis introduced John Burton, M.D. who is being recommended by the MDPB to serve as state EMS medical director. Dr. Burton is a Board certified emergency physician from Maine Medical Center with extensive EMS experience in Maine and Pennsylvania. Dr. Chagrasulis has resigned from this position to pursue other interests.

MOTION: To approve the appointment of John Burton, M.D. as state EMS medical director. (Bouchard; second by Stevens). Unanimous.

Jim presented a plaque to Dr. Chagrasulis and thanked her for the many years that she has been involved with EMS and in particular the past four years that she has served as state EMS medical director.

D. Regional Medical Director approvals

Jay reported that there are two new regional medical directors who have been appointed by their respective councils, but who require Board confirmation. Steve Diaz, M.D., is an emergency physician at MaineGeneral Medical Center (Waterville) and serves as Region 3 medical director. Michael Schorr, D.O., is an emergency physician at Waldo County Hospital and serves as Region 6 medical director.

MOTION: To approve the appointments of Drs. Diaz and Schorr as medical directors for Regions 3 and 6 respectively. (Knowlton; second by Pillsbury). Unanimous.

E. Waiver request - Carmen Lawless

Drexell summarized the waiver request for Ms. Lawless which was included in the Board packets. Information was provided to the Board that Ms. Lawless submitted her application in a timely manner to her service chief, but that the chief's delay in mailing it to Maine EMS resulted in Ms. Lawless only being eligible for a 2 year license. After discussion about a number of issues, including the promptness of Ms. Lawless' call to Maine EMS relative to when her license should have been received, the following motion was made:

MOTION: To grant Carmen Lawless (license # E17629) a waiver of Section 6.D.6(b) of the Maine EMS Rules and issue her a 3 year license which will expire on 11/02. (Little; second by Cassidy). Approved: 7 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstain (Ashby).

F. Appeal of I/C denial by SMEMS - John Sawicki

This item has been deleted from the agenda and referred to the Investigations Committee.

G. Board member profiles/photos for Journal of Maine EMS

Jay asked that Board members fill out the profile questionnaire and either provide a photograph or have their picture taken for use in an upcoming issue on the MEMS system which will appear in a future issue of the Journal of Maine EMS.

H. Other

Penobscot Valley Hospital license application

Drexell reviewed the history of the ambulance license which was submitted to Northeast EMS for Dr. Liebow's signature and the material included in the Board mailing on this issue. It was the recommendation of Atty Yustak Smith that Penobscot Valley has met the applicable requirements and should be issued their ambulance license in spite of an absence Dr. Liebow's signature.

MOTION: To approve the ambulance service application submitted by Penobscot Valley Hospital. (Doughty; second by Dunwoody) 9 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstain (Ashby, Stevens).

Wayne Werts said that he would like to have a discussion regarding field experience for licensees at a future meeting. Agreed.

6. Staff Report

A. Activities

Jay noted that the parking situation has become rather limited as a result of the Revenue Dept. moving in a neighboring building. He is working with the supervisors in that Department to work out any problems that arise.

Inspections remain on schedule and are now being conducted in Southern Maine.

Bill Montejo worked out a grant with Maine Emergency Management Agency to provide HazMat Reference Books for each EMS service in the state. These will be distributed through the regional offices to help assure that each service gets a copy to an authorized representative.

Under a grant received from the Bureau of Highway Safety, MEMS is having redesigned MCI vests printed for each service and licensed EMS vehicle. The new vests are larger, have pouch pockets and will be printed with reflective ink. Delivery to MEMS is expected toward the end of April.

Jay is working with the School Health Advisory Committee (which consists of DHS and Dept of Education reps, among others) to produce an "Emergency Guidelines for Schools". This will be similar to projects that have been done in Ohio and North Dakota and will be funded by the EMS-C grant.

Board members should now be receiving copies of all regional council minutes in their packets. This was requested by some Board members and is being done to help all Board members be aware of interests, concerns, and activities that are underway around the state.

B. MDPB

Dr. Chagrasulis reported that the MDPB approved two additional categories of medications for the Paramedic Interfacility Transfer Module (IIb/IIIa antagonists and Lorazepam). They are also reviewing the possible addition of antibiotics to this module.

Debbie Dane expressed interest about QI plans for paramedics who may now be trained and able to access central lines. Dr. Chagrasulis explained that this would be the responsibility of the individual service and should be part of the consideration by the regional office in approving the instructors and the training program for any specific service.

The next meeting of the MDPB will be on March 15, 2000, 9:30 - 12:30 PM at MEMS.

C. Other

Meeting adjourned 10:45 AM